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# IOWA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

**To Office** Bridges and Structures **Date** September 24, 2003

**Attention** All Employees **Ref No**. 521.1

**From** Gary Novey

**Office** Bridges and Structures

**Subject** Methods Memo No. 17 (Lighting on Bridges)

The current policy for lighting on bridges has been for the design engineer to evaluate whether the bridge is located near an urban area. For these projects determined to be in an urban area, the Engineer shall make a request (send a copy of the TS&L) to the Office of Traffic and Safety to determine the lighting and conduit requirements. Traffic and Safety, determines the conduit size, locates the conduit and light pole bases (if needed) on a TS&L sheet for the bridges submitted and returns the information back to our office.

This policy has been revised as follows:

When evaluating a bridge for conduit and lighting, the designer should follow the Design Manual (Road), Chapter 11, "Lighting Information for Bridge Design". If the bridge is near an urban area or interchange, then the bridge may require light pole blisters. In this case the TS&L should be submitted to Traffic and Safety for review. Traffic and Safety will review the site to determine if existing lighting is present or if a lighting project is planned in the near future. If it is determined that continuous lighting will be present at this location, light pole blisters and possibly underdeck lighting will be located and noted on a TS&L sheet and returned to the Engineer.

This change in policy will require, as a minimum, that conduit be provided in at least one rail on all bridges. In discussions with our lighting crews, it was found that conduit could be cleaned out and used even if the bridges have been in service for a number of years. CADD standard 1030A, 2 of 2, "Rigid Steel Conduit and Junction Box Details" has been added to the standard directory and 1030A 1 of 2, "Lighting" has been updated.

Metric standards have not been released at this time, but the English standards can be used as a guide until the metric standards are available.

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